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September 23, 2005

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Victoria J. Rutson
Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W., Room 504
Washington, D.C. 20423

Re: Finance Docket No. 34658, The Alaska Railroad Corp. -- Petition For Exemption From 49 U.S.C. §10901 To Construct and Operate a Rail Line Between Eielson Air Force Base (North Pole, Alaska) and Fort Greely (Delta Junction)

Dear Ms. Rutson:

Enclosed for your information and files in the above-referenced proceeding, please find a copy of a letter dated August 2, 2005 from Lieutenant General Carrol. H. Chandler, Commander, Alaskan Command, to General Patrick K. Gamble, USAF, Retired, President and Chief Executive Officer, Alaska Railroad Corporation.

As stated in the letter, the Alaskan Command indicates its intention to participate in the environmental planning process for the proposed Northern Rail Extension. In addition, Colonel Paul Curtis is identified as a point of contact for the Alaskan Command for coordination with the Surface Transportation Board.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Floyd
Kathryn A. Kusske Floyd

cc: Dave Navecky, SEA (with encl.)
Eileen Reilly, ARRC
Brett Flint, ARRC

Enclosure




HEADQUARTERS
ALASKAN COMMAND (ALCOM)
ELMENDORF AIR FORCE BASE, ALASKA 99506

02 AUG 2005

Lieutenant General Carrol H. Chandler
Commander, Alaskan Command
9480 Pease Avenue, Suite 101
Elmendorf AFB AK 99506-2100

General Patrick K. Gamble, USAF, Retired
President and Chief Executive Officer
Alaska Railroad Corporation
P.O. Box 107500
Anchorage, AK 99510


Dear General Gamble

We appreciate the invitation to participate in the environmental impact statement (EIS) for the realignment of track from Fort Wainwright to Eielson AFB and the railroad line extension from Eielson AFB to Fort Greely projects on behalf of the Alaska Railroad Corporation. Since these projects may have a direct impact on military missions and installations in the area, it is important for Alaskan Command to participate in the environmental planning process. My point of contact is Colonel Paul Curtis, ALCOM/J4, 9480 Pease Avenue, Suite 216, Elmendorf AFB AK 99506. He may be contacted by phone at (907) 552-7013 or via email at paul.curtis@elmendorf.af.mil.

We recommend you also invite the 354th Fighter Wing Commander and the U.S. Army Garrison – Alaska Commander to participate. As the federal property managers for their respective installations, they too have an interest in the rail projects, and their involvement at this early stage will further enhance your environmental planning effort.

Again, thank you for your invitation. We look forward to working with you and the Surface Transportation Board on matters of mutual interest.

Very Respectfully

CARROL H. CHANDLER
Lieutenant General, USAF
Commander

cc:
CG, USARAK
3 WG/CC
354 FW/CC
ALCOM/J02/J4/J06